

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously submitted) A method for drilling or intervening in a well passing through a porous, permeable formation in which a water-based well fluid is circulating in said well, comprising adding to said fluid a maximum of 1 g/l of a composition comprising at least one compound selected from the group consisting of partial esters of at least one polyol selected from the group consisting of glycerol and polyglycerols with at least one C8 - C10 fatty acid, with the chain lengths of the acid and polyol parts being chosen such that said partial ester has sufficient dispersion in water, compatibility with any other ingredients, does not form an emulsion with the reservoir oil, and adsorbs sufficiently on the porous formation.

2 - 4. (canceled)

5. (Previously submitted) A method according to Claim 1, wherein said polyglycerol has between 24 and 30% glycerol, between 28 and 34% diglycerol, between 20 and 26% triglycerol, between 9 and 15% tetraglycerol, and between 4 and 10% pentaglycerol.

6. (canceled)

7. (Previously submitted) A water-based well fluid for use in a method according to claim 1 comprising a maximum of 1 g/l of a composition comprising at least one compound selected from the group consisting of the partial esters of at least one polyol selected from the group consisting of glycerol and polyglycerols with

at least one C8 - C10 fatty acid, with the chain lengths of the acid and polyol parts being chosen such that said partial ester has sufficient dispersion in water, compatibility with any other ingredients, does not form an emulsion with the reservoir oil, and adsorbs sufficiently on the porous formation.

8 - 9. (canceled)

10. (Previously submitted) A fluid according to Claim 7, wherein said polyglycerol has between 24 and 30% glycerol, between 28 and 34% diglycerol, between 20 and 26% triglycerol, between 9 and 15% tetraglycerol and between 4 and 10% pentaglycerol.

11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously submitted) A method according to Claim 5, wherein said polyglycerol has 27% glycerol, 31% diglycerol, 23% triglycerol, 12% tetraglycerol and 7% pentaglycerol.

13. (Previously submitted) A fluid according to Claim 7 further comprising at least one ingredient selected from the group consisting of filtrate reducers, viscosifiers and heavy mineral suspensoids.

14. (canceled)

15. (Previously submitted) A fluid according to Claim 7, wherein said polyglycerol has 27% glycerol, 31% diglycerol, 23% triglycerol, 12% tetraglycerol and 7% pentaglycerol.--